

Application No.: 10/679656
Amendment dated: February 8, 2006
Reply to Office action of January 20, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1(currently amended). A miniature flashlight comprising a case, a light emitting diode mounted in the case, an electrical power source also mounted in the case, and a manually operable switching device for controlling delivery of electrical power from the source to the light emitting diode, and a mounting clip for attachment of the flashlight to a separate article, one of said case and said mounting clip having a recess, and the other of said case and said mounting clip having a projection ~~fitting~~ extending therefrom in a first direction into said recess with a snap fit, said recess having a resilient, deformable sidewall, least one tab on one of said projection and said side wall, and at least one flange on the other of said projection and said sidewall, said at least one tab and said flange being engageable by a snap fit for maintaining engagement of the projection in said recess, the deformability of the side wall allowing the projection and tab to be disengaged from each other by exertion of a bending force to effect relative bending of the case and the mounting clip, whereby the case can be rapidly removed from the mounting clip by manipulation for separation of the case from the mounting clip without disengagement of the mounting clip from said separate article.

2(original). A miniature flashlight according to claim 1, in which said mounting clip comprises a molded element

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having a resilient gate, said gate and a part of said element forming a loop openable to receive a key ring, and closable to maintain engagement of the loop with the key ring.

3(original). A miniature flashlight according to claim 1, in which said mounting clip is a unitary, molded, element having a loop openable to receive a key ring, and closable to maintain engagement of the loop with the key ring.

4(original). A miniature flashlight according to claim 1, in which said mounting clip has a base, and a loop a part of which is constituted by said base, in which said recess is formed in said base, and in which said projection is a part of said case.

5(currently amended). A miniature flashlight ~~according to claim 1~~ comprising a case, a light emitting diode mounted in the case, an electrical power source also mounted in the case, a manually operable switching device for controlling delivery of electrical power from the source to the light emitting diode, and a mounting clip for attachment of the flashlight to a separate article, one of said case and said mounting clip having a recess, and the other of said case and said mounting clip having a projection fitting said recess with a snap fit, whereby the case can be rapidly removed from the mounting clip by manipulation for separation of the case from the mounting clip without disengagement of the mounting clip from said separate article, in which said projection has a main body and a pair of flanges, said flanges being disposed on opposite sides of the main body, and in which said recess has opposed interior side walls and retaining tabs formed on

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said side walls and engageable respectively with said flanges, whereby the projection fits the recess with a snap fit.

6(original). A miniature flashlight according to claim 5, in which said side walls of the recess are sufficiently resilient to allow the flanges of the projection to move past the retaining tabs when the case is removed from, and connected to, the mounting clip.

7(currently amended). A miniature flashlight ~~according to claim 1~~ comprising a case, a light emitting diode mounted in the case, an electrical power source also mounted in the case, a manually operable switching device for controlling delivery of electrical power from the source to the light emitting diode, and a mounting clip for attachment of the flashlight to a separate article, one of said case and said mounting clip having a recess, and the other of said case and said mounting clip having a projection extending in a first direction into said recess, and fitting said recess with a snap fit, whereby the case can be rapidly removed from the mounting clip by manipulation for separation of the case from the mounting clip without disengagement of the mounting clip from said separate article, in which said projection has an elongated main body and a pair of flanges, said flanges being disposed on opposite sides of the main body, in which said recess has opposed interior side walls and retaining tabs formed on said side walls and engageable respectively with said flanges whereby the projection fits the recess with a snap fit, and in which said flanges have rounded edges extending in the direction of elongation of said main body of the projection, whereby the projection can be disengaged from

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the recess by a bending force exerted on the case and said mounting clip about a bend axis extending in the direction of elongation of said projection, said bending force being substantially less than the pulling force required to remove the projection from the recess along ~~the~~ said first direction ~~in which said projection extends from said case.~~

8(new). A miniature flashlight according to claim 1, in which the case and the mounting clip are sufficiently long, in said first direction, that the bending force required to disengage the projection and tab from each other is less than the pulling force required to disengage the projection and tab from each other by directly pulling the clip away from the case along said first direction.